

George was born in 1958, in Jacksonville, Florida, while his dad served in the Navy. He grew up in the Eastpoint Christian Church where he was ordained into ministry in 1982.

He graduated with a bachelor of science degree from Atlanta Christian College in 1983, and answered the call for the First Christian Church in Rincon, Georgia, in 1985, where he began his first full-time ministry.

In 1993, George and his family moved to Peachtree City to serve the Peachtree City Christian Church, where he continues today.

George has been married to his wife, Renee, since 1988, and they have three children and one grandchild. George and his family live in Peachtree City, Georgia.

I want to commend Dr. Dillard for his commitment to our community. There is not a week that goes by where George isn't a visible and welcoming part of the Fayette County community.

The grace and love he has shown his parishioners and neighbors throughout his 24 years in Peachtree City is unparalleled.

I am truly honored to have Dr. George Dillard here with us here today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTERMAN). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RALPH P. AVERY TO BE AWARDED FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

(Mr. FASO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Ralph P. Avery of Claverack, New York, who will soon be awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal.

Mr. Avery served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a crew member of an LCT-571 landing craft built in upstate New York. He bravely stormed Omaha Beach on D-day in defense of our freedoms and in service of European liberation.

On that historic day, he courageously manned a 20-millimeter gun, firing upon enemy positions. For his heroic actions in combat and their importance to our French allies, next month Mr. Avery will be formally awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal, France's highest honor.

Mr. Avery has been awarded the American Campaign Medal, the European African Middle East Campaign Medal with a Campaign Star for the invasion of Normandy, the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ralph P. Avery and his fellow veterans for their

outstanding service to America and the cause of liberty.

THE BORDER WALL IS EXPENSIVE AND UNNECESSARY

(Mr. BROWN of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, President Trump's immigration policies are unpopular. They don't protect our national security and don't promote our ideals as a nation.

Nowhere is that more apparent than his repeated calls for a border wall. This wall is so unpopular and nonsensical that the House has now resorted to funding it without even a straight up-or-down vote.

Why are they doing this? Not only to give the President a much-needed win, but to fool the American taxpayer who was repeatedly promised that Mexico would pay for this wall.

The border wall is expensive and unnecessary. It is opposed not only by a huge majority of Americans, but also by those living on the border.

Now, Members of Congress are being forced to choose between voting for the wall and voting to fund our military. I support our servicemembers. I spent 30 years in Active and Reserve Duty. I am a member of the House Armed Services Committee. I want to improve the readiness of our Armed Forces, but I cannot and will not support a multi-billion dollar wall that Members of both sides of the aisle now know is unnecessary and ineffective. I will not throw away \$1.6 billion to feed the President's ego. On this issue, the American people deserve to know exactly where their representatives stand.

PEACE CORPS ANGEL ABROAD— JENNIFER MAMOLA

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Mamola represents the very best of America. She volunteered for the Peace Corps at 26 and served in Uganda.

While there, tragically, she was hit from behind by a drunk driver, breaking both of her legs. Her life changed forever.

When she returned home to America, she faced an uphill battle to get treatment and endless bureaucracy. After 3 months, the Peace Corps stopped covering her medical costs and sent her to face the bureaucracy of the Department of Labor.

Instead of serving as a resource, the Peace Corps' postservice unit was no help at all. When she reached out asking for mental health services, they ignored her. She has undergone four surgeries and endless hours of agony.

America's angels abroad deserve better. My legislation will ensure that

Peace Corps volunteers have medical care in foreign countries and in America when they return home.

I want to welcome Jennifer to the House Chamber today. Congress appreciates her service as a Peace Corps volunteer, and we must provide help for wonderful people like her.

And that is just the way it is.

DON'T POLITICIZE NATIONAL SECURITY POLICYMAKING IN CONGRESS

(Mrs. MURPHY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the House is currently considering the minibus, which would fund certain Federal agencies in the next fiscal year.

As a former Pentagon aide, I have opposed efforts to politicize national security policymaking in Congress. That is why I introduced a bill to bar political operatives from serving on the National Security Council, and was proud when Steve Bannon was removed from the NSC.

The minibus provides robust funding for the Defense Department, the same funding that I proudly voted to authorize as a member of the Armed Services Committee. Sadly, House leadership has taken a strong bipartisan bill and contaminated it by adding a provision assigning \$1.6 billion to construct a border wall.

This provision is opposed by public officials from both parties who actually live along the southwest border, and it will do nothing to keep my constituents in central Florida safe. The money could be better spent to expand an underfunded counterterrorism program that Orlando has been excluded from, or to enhance security at our air and seaports.

In short, this funding should be used to give the American people real security, not politically motivated gimmicks.

MORRISVILLE 12U SOFTBALL TEAM WINS PENNSYLVANIA STATE TITLE

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morrisville 12U Softball Team. These incredible young athletes from our district won the Pennsylvania State title and advanced to the regional tournament in Bristol, Connecticut, to represent the entire State of Pennsylvania. Not only did these young ladies play an incredible season, of which they should be extremely proud, they did so while honoring a member of our community.

The team dedicated their postseason play to the memory of Ms. Donna Rossi, a committed league volunteer and supporter who passed away following a battle with cancer shortly before the first district game.